

From: Katrina Hardy [REDACTED]

Sent: 16 March 2023 17:32

To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

Subject: Comments relating to S62A/2022/0011 Land East of Pelham substation, Maggots End Manuden

Good afternoon,

Please see my comments below that referred to the original planning application for the Maggots End Solar Farm at Uttlesford District Council UTT/21/3356/FUL. As I'm sure you are aware, there are also multiple applications for solar farms covering vast areas of land in East Herts, just over the border. It is my belief that we need to protect this farmland from over industrialisation and ensure that solar panels are placed in suitable locations and not dotted over vast swathes of beautiful countryside.

" The Government's Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution for the UK (November 2020) does not mention solar power, but favours advancing offshore wind, driving growth of low carbon hydrogen and delivering new and advanced nuclear power. 'We will generate new clean power with offshore wind farms, nuclear plants and by investing up to half a billion pounds in new hydrogen technologies.' Boris Johnson. The recent COP 26 summit concludes a need for global cohesion on renewable energy, including solar. This does not mean, however, dotting solar farms in inappropriate locations. Government guidance on locating technology for generating renewable forms of energy specifically states that it should NOT override environmental protections. 'Protection from the damage of large scale schemes must be addressed by local authorities'. MPs have previously been very vocal on how solar farms are a 'blight on the landscape' especially in southern UK. This application is for a large scale solar farm on undulating, high quality farmland, in the middle of a rural area, between small villages and hamlets. It will be visible from the many beautiful country footpaths and lanes. Low Carbon themselves admitted, during the community engagement webinar, that it will completely alter the vista. The location that has been put forward in this application therefore goes against Government advice. Low Carbon admitted on their webinar that they have no experience of decommissioning these solar farms and were therefore unable to offer any appropriate information on this procedure and the real after effects. It is extremely sad to see this application being put forward in our beautiful countryside, which we must ALL aim to protect for now and for future generations. Please see fit to reject this application, which seems to go against current government guidance and the future plans for UK energy. Please protect our rural environment and those humans and wildlife that call it 'home' before it gets destroyed. Many thanks, Kind Regards Katrina Hardy"

Katrina Hardy

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